

Daily Mountaineer.

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 21, 1866.

LETTER FROM CANYON CITY.

CANYON CITY, May 11th, 1866.

EDITOR MOUNTAINEER:—The most important event of the week in the John Day mines has been the advent of a small party of Chinese miners. These may be looked upon as the forerunners of a horde of these industrious people. Heretofore the prejudices of the miners have been so violent against Chinamen that one of them stood about as much chance here as a Tai-ping in the hands of an Imperialist in their own Celestial Empire.—The character of the diggings here, and the declining prospects of a considerable portion of the mines, has at length induced claim-holders to turn their attention to the introduction of cheaper and more abundant labor, and it is probable that the result will prove the wisdom of the movement.

The bed of Canyon Creek, the flats at the mouth of the creek, and the newly discovered prospects on the main John Day River, promise well to employ thousands of laborers for years to come; that is to say, of that class who can and will work for a compensation of from \$3 to \$5 a day.

The best of Canyon Creek is yet but partially worked. The ground ranges in depth from twelve to twenty feet. In order to facilitate "stripping," expensive hoisting machinery has been erected. In all, about twenty derricks have been put up for this purpose; all of which hoist by water-power, but one—which is driven by steam. Upon an average, these derricks have cost about \$2,500, making a total of \$50,000 for this particular species of apparatus, to say nothing of the vast expense entailed in pumping, draining and opening claims. I believe it is still open to debate whether the derricks have proved more economical than wheel-barrows and ordinary hand-labor. At any rate, it seems as if the introduction of Chinese labor would do away with this cumbersome method of working the creek claims. But this will soon be demonstrated by actual experiment.

PROSPECTS ON THE MAIN JOHN DAY.

The first prospects in the main John Day River were obtained about nine miles below the mouth of Canyon Creek, and continual encouragement is derived from the developments of each week's labor. For many miles above and below where these prospects were obtained, the John Day runs through prairie hills of very irregular formation, and the river bottom is of the average width of a quarter of a mile—all of which is good meadow or arable land. Prospects have also been obtained eighteen miles below Canyon Creek, on a bar where the bed-rock is above high-water mark. While it is not to be expected that all the river bottom will pay, it is pretty well settled that a large proportion of it is rich. The depth and flatness of the ground render its development a very slow process; but even twelve feet of "stripping" will not prevent the irrepressible Chinamen from making money out of this ground, if properly directed by intelligent white men. It is to be hoped that by another year each honest miner in this country will have his dozen coolies delving in his claims. There is an eminent fitness in this relation of the races, which, I think, must recommend itself to the reason of every miner who looks forward to a time when he can quit his present laborious and exhausting mode of life with the means to engage in some more congenial vocation.

THE MIDDLE FORK MINES.

The mines on the Middle Fork of John Day are confined to three creeks or gulches, which empty into that stream from the north. Going down stream, they are named, respectively, Elk Creek, Deep Creek and Buck Gulch.—These creeks appear to be crossed by a range of gold-bearing rock from two to three miles up each of them, and from this rock has been dislodged the heaviest lumps of gold ever found in the John Day mines; but like all coarse gold countries, the pay is irregular, and a large proportion of the miners are making nothing. As a general thing, these diggings are shallow near the mouths of the creeks, and grow deeper as you ascend, until in the upper sections the ground has to be drifted.

Some claims, at the mouth of Elk Creek, in the main Middle Fork, have paid well, and are still paying. Good prospects have also been obtained in the river, from the mouth of Elk Creek for three or four miles down; and if these should turn out as expected, a great field for labor will be opened. I consider the chances even that the river proves to be good.

THE CINNABAR LEAD.

On the South side of the main John Day,

nine or ten miles below Canyon Creek, is the cinnabar lead, of which so much has been said. Some weeks since the Indians attacked two men who went up to examine the mine, and it was found necessary to send out six men with Henry rifles, and other shooting and cutting utensils, to take possession of the ground. During the last week this party has been engaged in sinking upon it, and the gratifying fact is established that the cinnabar lies in a true lead. The ore rapidly increases in richness as the miners go down on it, and the presumption is, that it will yield as well as the new or old mines of Idria and Almaden.

ABOUT THE COUNTRY IN GENERAL.

With the advantage of some observation, and much inquiry, I arrive at the conclusion that the waters of the John Day have been less prospected than the distant section on the head-waters of Salmon River. This is easily accounted for: the population of the country is sparse, and it is quite impracticable to raise prospecting parties strong enough to traverse these mountains, infested, as they are, with the most wily and murderous Indians on the continent. As a body, miners are proverbial for recklessness; but the idea of being suddenly extinguished some morning about daybreak is too much for even the most foolhardy. In this country, "in the midst of life we are in death," and at some unexpected moment a man is liable to be beset by half-a-dozen "yellow-go-naked," and incontinently killed in his boots by a flight of arrows, or peppered over by a rifle or a Hudson's Bay musket. On account of this unsettled state of affairs, whenever a man makes some money he usually leaves the country; and thus, to the evils of a chronic Indian war, is added a steady and exhausting depletion of the best part of the population, and a corresponding drain on the means which would otherwise be largely applied to the discovery and development of the mines and the improvement of agricultural lands.

As a grazing country, the foothills of the Blue Mountains are not excelled by any other part of the Columbia Basin; and to an abundance of grass and water is joined a climate by far the most moderate of any that I know of in the same latitude. A sufficiency of arable land is to be found conveniently located, and nothing is wanting but the subjugation of the Indians to render these hills and valleys the Arcadia of the North-west. The farming interest is already very great, and solid improvements and well-cultivated fields attest the prosperity of that portion of the community. A grist-mill has been erected at John Day City, at the mouth of Canyon Creek, and with seven cents a pound the advantage of the Dalles market, the growth of wheat must prove the most remunerative business in the State.

THE FALLACY OF MILITARY PROTECTION.

There is no more erroneous idea than that the military ever can or ever will subjugate the Indians. You may carry on "a war of posts" for fifty years against the Snakes, and they will still be eating government mules and citizens' cattle and horses almost in sight of the military camps. History proves that Indians never were subjugated by regular soldiery. In New England, the savages in Narragansett Swamp sunk under the unpaid prowess of the psalm-singing Puritans, and in Wisconsin, Blackhawk's warriors fled before the militia of the country, who were dressed in "battered trousers" and "linsey-woolsey" hunting shirts. The Florida Indians were never beaten except by Gentry's Missourians, and in Texas the rangers inflicted vengeance on the Comanches, with nothing for pay and a "corn-pone" for rations. Mad Anthony Wayne did defeat the Indians in Ohio, but he did not subjugate them; twenty years after the battle on the Maumee the same Indians were again defeated by Harrison with raw Kentuckians and Ohioans, on the same ground. On the Spokane Plains, the confederated bands of Palouses, Spokanes and Comor'd'Alenes gave battle to a superior force of regulars, and were defeated; and if this is "subjugation," it is the one, solitary instance that occurs to my memory. But subjugation, in my opinion, means something more. It means the defeat of the Indians, the permanent occupation of their country by a productive population of whites, besides holding the Indians in a position where their lives are absolutely at the mercy of their conquerors. To bring about this state of affairs, we need more population; and until we have it, occasional murders will be perpetrated by the Snakes, and occasional bands of horses and cattle will be stolen.

The most that the government can do is to distribute arms amongst the miners and settlers here. As to the balance, we will have peace and security when we have induced a sufficient population hitherwards to occupy the mines and to cultivate the valleys.

The body of a man was found in the Columbia river, at Celilo, on Saturday. The body was entirely stripped of clothing, and from appearances must have been in the water a long time. We are informed that evidence of foul play was on the body in the shape of a gun-shot wound in the left side; and that the face was so disfigured that it was impossible to recognize it. It was taken charge of by the Coroner.

The great Democratic war-horse, Benjamin Hayden, is announced to address the citizens of the Dalles this evening, at the corner of Main and Court streets.

Spring.—Now is the time to purify your blood. Hall's Sarsaparilla, Yellow Dock and Iodide of Potass is decidedly the best thing in use for that purpose. Sold by druggists everywhere.

Religious Notice.

CATHOLIC CHURCH—Morning service: Mass, at 10½ o'clock. Evening service: Vespers and Benediction, at 7½ o'clock. Sunday School at 2 o'clock, p. m. 42344f FATHER L. DIELEMAN, Pastor.

Columbia Lodge, No. 5, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Friday evening at 7 o'clock, in Gates Hall, corner of Second and Court Streets. Brothers in good standing are invited to attend. By order. N. G.

Wasco Lodge, No. 15, A. F. & A. M.—Holds its stated Communications on the First and Third Mondays of each month, at their hall, in Dalles City. Brethren in good standing are invited to attend. By order of the W. M. SETH L. POPE, Sec'y.

DEMOCRATS OF DALLES CITY ASSEMBLE AT THE CORNER OF MAIN & COURT STREETS, THIS EVENING, at 7½ o'clock.

Hon. Ben. Hayden

Will address the citizens. All are invited to attend. By order of the Executive Committee, JOHN WILLIAMS, Ch'n.

FOR SALE.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ACRES OF LAND, the property of the heirs of John Kalligan, lately deceased. The land is conveniently located on Mill Creek, between the claims of Theodore Mesplie and Caldwell's, about three miles from Dalles City. It is well watered, and contains a good house, barn and stable, a good orchard and about twenty-five acres under improvement. For information or purchase apply to Father T. Mesplie, or Gates & Haft, Attorneys. Dalles, May 21, 1866. [lm] T. MESPLIE.

NOTICE.

DURING MY ABSENCE Mr. W. LORD is authorized to transact my business. Any persons knowing themselves indebted to me, will please call upon him. Dalles, May 16, 1866.—my16w1 R. H. WOOD.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING BOUGHT the Schooner *Perseverance* and half the schooner *Rapid*, from Torrence Quin, all debts against the above named Boats must be presented to me by the 20th day of May. ASA STRONG, m10d2w. Dalles, May 3, 1866. Herald copy, 3 weeks, and send bill to this office.

PROF. MURRAY'S MAGIC OIL,

For Sale by GATES & CHAPIN.

ALSO, AGENTS FOR DR. DUNCAN'S

Whooping Cough Specific.

FRED. LIEBE, GROCERY, PROVISION, AND FRUIT STORE, Washington Street, opposite French & Gilman's, Dalles. Has on hand a large and well-assorted stock of

GROCERIES & PROVISIONS,

Fresh Butter & Eggs.

Received daily. A large lot of CHICKENS always on hand. FRUITS of all kinds. FRESH VEGETABLES every morning. All articles warranted.

Give Me a Call, Everybody PRICES LOW.

J. F. KELLOGG, DENTIST,

Main St., Dalles, Oregon.

AFTER NEARLY SIXTEEN YEARS Practice in his profession, would respectfully inform the citizens of the Dalles and the public generally, that he has leased the Dental Office lately occupied by J. W. GURLEY, Dentist, where he can be found prepared to attend to those requiring his professional services. Office Hours—From 8 o'clock, A. M., to 12 M.; and from 1 o'clock, P. M. to 5 P. M. m37f

J. B. DICKERSON,

Dealer in all kinds of

GROCERIES & GRAIN, AT THE Lowest Cash Rates.

ALSO,

JOSLYN & CURTIS' BUTTER,

On hand, and received Fresh every week.

Come One, Come All, and Give me a Call, AT CONSER & BARTEN'S OLD STAND.

SUPERIOR CALIFORNIA RANCH BUTTER!

A Few Packages Choice, in quantities to suit, at 42344f BALDWIN BROS.

AUCTION AND COMMISSION HOUSE!

No. 100 MAIN STREET, DALLES.

THE UNDERSIGNED THANKFUL FOR PAST Favors, respectfully informs the citizens of the Dalles, and the public generally, that he continues to sell at

PUBLIC AUCTION OR PRIVATE SALE,

Real Estate, General Merchandise, Groceries, Horses, & Mules.

Furniture, Stocks, &c. &c.

REGULAR SALE DAYS, Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Cash Advances made on Consignments,

And PROMPT RETURN made of sales. Out-door and Special Sales attended to in any part of the city.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Auctioneer.

J. JUKER,

Main Street, Dalles,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

CIGARS, TOBACCO, SNUFF,

PIPES, &c.

ALWAYS IN STORE THE BEST BRANDS OF

Cigars, Tobacco, Matches, &c.

PLAYING CARDS, POCKET CUTLERY, PORT MONIES, COMBS and BRUSHES, of all kinds, PERFUMERY, of every description, CHINA ORNAMENTS, TOYS, DOLLS, etc. FISH HOOKS and FISHING TACKLE, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, FANCY GOODS, &c.

Also Powder, Shot, Lead, Powder Flasks, Baskets, and many other articles too numerous to mention. Interior dealers supplied with Cigars, Tobacco, etc. at less than Portland prices, with freight added. cc-8

SELLING OFF AT COST!

J. GOETZ & CO.,

STONE BUILDING, WASHINGTON STREET, DALLES,

Offer their well-selected stock of

TOBACCO,

SEGARS,

PIPES,

YANKEE NOTIONS,

AND

STATIONERY,

—AT—

SAN FRANCISCO COST.

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DRUGGISTS,

STONE BUILDING, WASHINGTON STREET,

DALLES, OREGON.

Importers and Jobbers of

PATENT MEDICINES,

CHEMICALS & FANCY GOODS,

SODA, CORKS & ACIDS,

OILS, & ALCOHOL,

PURE WINES & LIQUORS,

PAINTS, GLASS & BRUSHES.

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Accurately compounded:

PHOTOGRAPHIC EMPORIUM.

A full and complete assortment of all articles in the Photographic Line, at a SMALL ADVANCE ON SAN FRANCISCO PRICES.

Merchants will please get our prices before ordering below.

M. L. CHAPIN, JUSTIN GATES, Dalles, Sacramento, Cal.

LAST CHANCE!

WE WOULD CALL THE ATTENTION OF THE public to the fact that we are closing out our stock of

CLOTHING,

DRY GOODS, &c., &c.,

At Greatly Reduced Rates,

And offer bargains which cannot fail to satisfy anybody wanting articles in our line.

Fair Warning!

WE INTEND CLOSING OUR BUSINESS HERE by the FIRST OF JUNE next, and we take this opportunity of once more calling upon those indebted to us to call and settle. We will not, if we can help it, place any of our accounts in the hands of legal collectors; but if obliged to do so, we shall have recourse to that when this notice expires.

M. BROWN & BRO. a2941

DALLES & ROCKLAND

FERRY.

Landing—Foot of Union Street.

THE PROPRIETORS ARE NOW PREPARED WITH STAUNCH AND ROOMY BOATS, to cross

Travelers, Horses & Stock,

In a Safe and expeditious manner, and at Reasonable Rates.